

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GEORGE 01390 081755Z

65

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

EUR-12 EA-07 ARAE-00 /089 W
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P R 081720Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRORITY 3099
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L GEORGETOWN 1390

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, GY

SUBJECT: FONMIN WILLS LINKS DESTABILIZATION CHARGES BY GUYANA
TO INTERNAL POLITICS

1. SUMMARY: FONMIN WILLS ADMITTED GOG'S DESTABILIZATION CHARGES
BEING USED FOR INTERNAL POLITICAL PURPOSES. HE DIVIDED THE CABINET
BETWEEN PRO-SOVIETS, PRO-CHINESE, CONSERVATIVE-FASCISTS AND
PRAGMATISTS, AND NAMED A FEW. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING DISCUSSION AT HIS OFFICE MORNING JULY 6, FONMIN WILLS
COMMENTED THAT CHARGES OF DESTABILIZATION WERE BEING USED BY
BURNHAM AND GOG TO HELP REALIGN THE LOCAL POLITICAL SPECTRUM IN A
MORE NON-RACIAL MANNER. HE NOTED THAT THESE CHARGES WERE USEFUL
IN BUILDING INTERNAL SUPPORT FOR THE PEOPLE'S MILITIA AND IN BRING-
ING THE TWO MAJOR TRADITIONALLY ETHNIC-BASED POLITICAL PARTIES
TOGETHER. WILLS SAID HE HOPED THAT THE U.S. WOULD UNDERSTAND
THIS PURPOSE, WHICH OBVIOUSLY COULD NOT BE OFFICIALLY PROCLAIMED,
AND THAT IT WOULD NOT INTERPRET THE ANTI-U.S. IMPLICATION OF THE
CHARGES AS MEANING GUYANA WAS DEVIATING FROM ITS COMPLETELY NON-
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PAGE 02 GEORGE 01390 081755Z

ALIGNED POSITION. HE NOTED GOG SPOKESMEN WERE NOT SPECIFICALLY

LABELING USG AS DESTABILIZING.

3. I TOLD WILLS THAT HE AND THE GOG HAD TO REALIZE THAT UNJUSTIFIED CHARGES ALSO HAD AN INTERNAL POLITICAL EFFECT IN THE U.S; AND THAT WE AND PUBLIC UNDERSTOOD USG WAS A TARGET EVEN IF NOT SPECIFIED BY NAME. WHILE WE REALIZED GUYANA WAS NON-ALIGNED AS BETWEEN THE PRC AND THE SOVIET UNION, ITS ACTIONS AND DECLARATIONS MADE US WONDER WHETHER IT IS ALSO STILL NON-ALIGNED BETWEEN THE U.S. AND THOSE OTHER PARTIES.

4. WILLS ADMITTED THAT NOT ALL MEMBERS OF CABINET WERE NON-ALIGNED, DESCRIBING HIMSELF AND BURNHAM AS PRAGMATISTS, HUBERT JACK (MINISTER OF ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES) AS PRO-SOVIET, DEPUTY PM PTOLEMY REID AND MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING STEVE NARAIN AS PRO-CHINESE, AND MINISTER OF COOPERATIVES AND NATIONAL MOBILIZATION HAMILTON GREEN AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND CULTURE SHIRLEY FIELD-RIDLEY AS QUOTE CONSERVATIVE UNQUOTE. WHEN I EXPRESSED DISMAY AT HIS DESCRIPTION OF THE LATTER TWO AS CONSERVATIVE, HE SPECIFIED HE MEANT IN A QUOTE FASCIST UNQUOTE SORT OF WAY.
MATTHEWS

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